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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5026th meeting of the Security Council, held on 1 September 2004, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council condemns in the strongest terms the heinous terrorist act involving the taking of hostages at a secondary school in the town of Beslan, the Russian Federation, on 1 September 2004, as well as other terrorist attacks committed recently against innocent civilians in Moscow and on two Russian airliners, in which many lives were claimed and people injured.

"The Security Council demands the immediate and unconditional release of all hostages of the terrorist attack.

"The Security Council expresses the deepest sympathy and condolences to the people and the Government of the Russian Federation and to the victims of the terrorist acts and their families.

"The Security Council urges all States, in accordance with their obligations under resolution 1373 (2001), to cooperate actively with the Russian authorities in their efforts to find and bring to justice the perpetrators, organizers and sponsors of these terrorist acts.

"The Security Council reaffirms that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, whenever and by whomsoever committed.

"The Security Council expresses its determination to combat all forms of terrorism, in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations."

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